



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture

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2010 Honey Production

Montana honey producers with five or more colonies during 2010 produced 11.6 million pounds of honey, up 14 percent from 2009. The estimate of honey production includes production by colonies that were in the state for part of the year. There were 157,000 colonies producing honey in 2010, compared with 146,000 colonies in 2009. The honey yield per colony was 74 pounds, up 4 pounds from a year ago. Honey stocks on December 15, 2010 were 2.9 million pounds, down from 3.6 million pounds in 2009.

Montana honey prices increased \$0.09 from 2009 to \$1.55 per pound in 2010, setting a new record high. The 2010 value of honey production was \$18.0 million dollars, up 21 percent from last year due to higher prices and production.

Honey production in the United States during 2010 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 176 million pounds, up 20 percent from 2009. There were 2.68 million colonies producing honey in 2010, up 7 percent from 2009. Yield per colony averaged 65.5 pounds, up 12 percent from the 58.6 pounds in 2009. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 45.3 million pounds on December 15, 2010, up 21 percent from a year earlier. Stocks

held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey prices in the United States increased to a record high \$1.60 per pound during 2010, up 9 percent from \$1.47 per pound in 2009. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private channels, and retail. The U.S. honey production was valued at \$282.0 million dollars, up 31 percent from the \$215.7 million dollars last year.

January 2011 Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.0 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during January 2011, down 28 percent from January 2010. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,300 head, down 24 percent from a year ago. The average live weight decreased 21 pounds to 1,181 pounds from last year.

During January there were 8000 hogs slaughtered, down 200 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 268 pounds, increased 6 pounds from last year. January sheep slaughter totaled 200 head, unchanged from January 2010. The average live weight decreased 4 pounds from last year to 106 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.04 billion pounds in January, up 3 percent from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in January 2010.

Beef production, at 2.12 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.74 million head, up 1 percent from January 2010. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from the previous year, at 1,301 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.8 million pounds, 7 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled

71,800 head, 13 percent below January 2010. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from last year, at 262 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.90 billion pounds, 5 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.10 million head, 2 percent above January 2010. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 11.2 million pounds, was 13 percent below January 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 161,100 head, 14 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, up 1 pound from January a year ago.

2010 Chicken Inventory and Egg Production

There were 535,000 chickens (excluding broilers) on Montana farms and ranches on December 1, 2010, down 1 percent from a year ago. The December 1, 2010 inventory included 375,000 layers 20 weeks old and older and 160,000 pullets. The total value of all chickens on December 1, 2010 was \$2.6 million, up 16 percent from last year. The average value per bird, at \$4.80, was up \$0.70 per bird from 2009.

Montana chickens produced 119 million eggs during the year ending November 30, 2010, up 11 percent from 2009. The state had an average of 375,000 layers in 2010, up 7 percent from a year ago. The average production per layer on hand was 317 eggs, up from 305 in 2009.

Layer numbers in the U.S. during 2010 averaged 340 million, up 1 percent from the year earlier. The annual average production per layer on hand in 2010 was 269 eggs, up slightly from 2009.(continued on page two)

2010 Chicken Inventory and Egg Production (continued from page one)

United States egg production during the year ending November 30, 2010 totaled 91.4 billion eggs, up 1 percent from 2009. Table egg production, at 78.5 billion eggs, was up 1 percent from the previous year. Hatching egg production, at 12.9 billion eggs, was up 1 percent from 2009.

The total number of chickens on hand on December 1, 2010 (excluding commercial broilers) was 455 million birds, up 1 percent from last year.

The U.S. total value of all chickens on December 1, 2010 was \$1.60 billion, up 6 percent from December 1, 2009. The average value per bird increased from \$3.34 on December 1, 2009, to \$3.52 per bird on December 1, 2010.

January 2011 Prices Received

January 2011 full-month crop prices were higher when compared with December 2010. Montana's winter wheat price increased \$0.04 to \$6.03 per bushel, spring wheat increased \$0.41 to \$6.85 per bushel and durum wheat increased \$0.56 to \$6.55 per bushel. Oats were \$2.62 per bushel for January 2011. Feed barley increased \$0.37 from the previous month to

\$3.67 per bushel and malt barley increased \$0.10 to \$3.93 per bushel.

The mid-February price for alfalfa hay increased \$1.00 to \$78.00 per ton from January, but all other hay decreased \$3.00 to \$74.00 per ton. Mid-February grain prices were higher than January with winter wheat at \$8.28 per bushel, durum wheat was \$9.85 per bushel, spring wheat was \$10.00 per bushel, feed barley was \$4.16 per bushel, and malt barley was \$4.68 per bushel.

The all milk price was \$16.70 in January 2011, compared with \$17.40 in December 2010, and \$18.10 at mid-month February 2011. Publication has been discontinued for all other monthly state-level livestock prices.

Nationally, prices for January and changes from December were as follows: winter wheat was \$6.37 per bushel, down \$0.03, spring wheat was \$7.13 per bushel, up \$0.56, durum wheat was \$7.07 per bushel, up \$1.00, all barley was \$3.85 per bushel, up \$0.01, oats were \$3.11 per bushel, up \$0.15, steers and heifers were \$110.00 per cwt, up \$6.00, cows were \$65.00 per cwt, up \$9.90, beef cattle were \$107.00 per cwt, up \$8.90, calves were \$136.00 per cwt, up \$6.00, sheep were \$81.90 per cwt, up \$15.70, lambs were \$149.00 per cwt, up \$3.00 per

cwt, and all milk was \$16.70 per cwt, unchanged.

The U.S. mid-February winter wheat price was \$8.13 per bushel, spring wheat was \$9.09 per bushel, durum wheat was \$9.39 per bushel, malt barley was \$4.40 per bushel, feed barley was \$4.17 per bushel, and oats were \$3.38 per bushel. Alfalfa hay was \$127.00 per ton and other hay was \$93.90 per ton. Steers and heifers were \$109.00 per cwt, cows were \$71.20 per cwt, beef cattle were \$106.00 per cwt, calves were \$136.00 per cwt, and all milk was \$18.40 per cwt.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 168 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 4 points (2.4 percent) from January. The Crop Index is up 12 points (6.5 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 4 points (2.9 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, wheat, lettuce, and milk and lower prices for strawberries, cattle, broilers, and broccoli. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and hogs offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton.

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month		Montana	U.S.
		Jan 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011	Jan 2011	Dec 2010	Jan 2010	15-Feb-11	15-Feb-11
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	5.11	5.99	6.03	6.37	+0.04	+0.92	8.28	8.13
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.02	5.99	6.55	7.07	+0.56	+1.53	9.85	9.39
Spring Wheat	Bu	6.03	6.44	6.85	7.13	+0.41	+0.82	10.00	9.09
All Wheat	Bu	5.47	6.18	6.44	6.71	+0.26	+0.97	9.18	8.56
All Barley	Bu	4.95	3.69	3.90	3.85	+0.21	-1.05	4.62	4.36
Feed Barley	Bu	2.35	3.30	3.67	3.43	+0.37	+1.32	4.16	4.17
Malt Barley	Bu	5.10	3.83	3.93	3.96	+0.10	-1.17	4.68	4.40
Oats	Bu	2.44	na	2.62	3.11	0.0	+0.18	na	3.38
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	92.00	76.00	77.00	121.00	+1.00	-15.00	78.00	127.00
All Other Hay	Ton	87.00	68.00	77.00	95.30	+9.00	-10.00	74.00	93.90
All Hay Baled	Ton	91.00	74.00	77.00	112.00	+3.00	-14.00	77.00	116.00
All Milk	Cwt	17.80	17.40	16.70	16.70	-0.70	-1.10	18.10	18.40

1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows. na-not available.

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

Potato Stocks
Red Meat Production

Steve Anderson, Director
Eric Sommer, Deputy Director
Wendy Bruski, Statistical Info Assistant
10 W 15th Street, Helena, MT 59626
406-441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612
www.nass.usda.gov/mt/ nass-mt@nass.usda.gov